

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace the claims, including all prior versions, with the listing of claims below.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for data realignment using a management network which has at least two management levels, comprising:

transmitting data for data realignment between at least one agent in one management level and at least one manager in a next-higher management level;

sending one or more request messages from the manager to the agent requesting the alignment data; ~~to transmit the data to the at least one agent;~~ and

transmitting correlation information from the manager to the agent for association of the respective request with the alignment data to be subsequently sent; ~~messages that are sent by the at least one agent;~~ wherein

filter devices ~~receive the data from the agents~~ receiving data independently of the manager and ~~pass the received data to the manager~~ passing the alignment data on the basis of the correlation information solely to the manager requesting the data alignment, the filter devices having a filter setting for filtering out alignment data by using information of an additional field of messages including the alignment data ~~with the filter devices being generic and/or independent of the actual functions of agents and managers.~~

2. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the alignment data ~~which is to be realigned during data realignment~~ is alarm data.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, in which components of the ~~corresponding managers~~ manager, of the agents or of units connected between a manager and an agent are used as filter devices.

5. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, in which event forwarding discriminators, log discriminators or other units with filter capabilities are used as filter devices.
6. (Canceled)
7. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~[[6]]~~1, in which the filter setting of ~~the additional field of the filter device of the manager requesting data realignment~~ alignment is reset to the default filter setting after data ~~realignment~~ alignment.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, in which ~~agents sending data realignment data transmit the data with~~ inserts the correlation information in the into an additional field to the filter devices of the managers of message including alignment data before sending the messages to the filter devices.
10. (Currently amended) A communications system having a management network which has at least two management levels, comprising:
- ~~managing devices configured for use as managers and/or as an agent; and~~
 - ~~realignment devices for data realignment;~~
 - ~~the devices for data realignment having autonomous filter devices, which are arranged as autonomous functional units between the actual functional units of managers and agents.~~
- an agent for transmitting alignment data to a manager in a next-higher management level;
a manager for transmitting correlation information to the agent for association of a request with the alignment data to be subsequently sent, and for receiving the alignment data from the agent;
filter device for receiving data independently of the manager and passing the alignment data on the basis of the correlation information solely to the manager requesting the data alignment, the

filter devices having a filter setting for filtering out alignment data by using information of an additional field of messages including alignment data.

11. (Currently amended) The communications system as claimed in claim 10, in which devices for ~~setting filter information and/or correlation information in associated~~ defining the filter setting of the filter devices are provided in the manager.

12. (Currently amended) The communications system as claimed in claim 10, in which devices for ~~setting filter information and/or inserting the correlation information in additional fields of data information which is to be transmitted via at least one filter device to a manager are provided in the agent~~ into an additional field of messages including alignment data before sending the messages to the filter devices are provided in the agent.

13. (Currently amended) The communications system as claimed in claim 10, in which ~~the filter devices are components of the corresponding managers,~~ components of the manager, of the agents, or of units which are connected separately between [[a]] the manager and [[an]] the agent are used as filter devices.

14. (Currently amended) The communications system as claimed in claim 10, in which ~~the filter devices are event forwarding discriminators, [[LOG]] log discriminators or other units with filter capabilities~~ are used as filter devices.